

WOODROW WILSON REHABILITATION CENTER POLICIES AND PROCEDURES	
Title: SERVICE ANIMALS	
Policy Number: 7.01	
Effective Date: 5/01	Page 1 of 2
Lead Department: OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY	

OBJECTIVE

To protect the rights of individuals with disabilities who use service animals. In compliance with legal requirements of the ADA as interpreted by the Civil Rights Division of the U. S. Department of Justice to protect the rights of individuals with disabilities who use service animals.

POLICY

Persons with disabilities who utilize service animals shall be permitted to bring the animal to WWRC to assist them during their enrollment. The ADA defines a service animal as “any dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. Other species of animals, whether wild or domestic, trained or untrained, are not service animals for the purposes of this definition.” If this definition is met, animals are considered service animals regardless of whether they have been licensed or certified by a state or local government. The service animal shall be permitted to accompany the individual to all areas of the facility where consumers are normally allowed to go. An individual with a service animal will not be segregated from other consumers.

Service animals perform some of the functions and tasks that the individual with a disability cannot perform. Some examples include:

- Guide dogs to assist persons with visual impairment,
- Hearing dogs to assist persons with hearing impairment, or
- Service dogs to assist persons with mobility impairment

According to ADA Title III Technical Assistance guidance “the care and supervision of a service animal is the responsibility of his or her owner. . .”

PROCEDURES

Prior to admission, the consumer must agree to the following requirements:

1. To be responsible for the feeding and all physical and/or health care required by asking for assistance, if needed.
2. To maintain good grooming and cleanliness.
3. To maintain the behavior of the animal such that it does not pose a threat or nuisance to consumers, staff, or guests because of odor, sound, disposition, or behavioral characteristics.
4. To be responsible for effective control of the animal at all times, either by leash or command, and be responsible for appropriate disposal and collection techniques when cleaning up after it, by asking for assistance, if needed.
5. To have the animal removed from the facility in the event the consumer cannot care for the animal.

Service animals may be excluded from the following based on a showing by appropriate medical personnel:

1. The residence of consumers place in isolation due to infectious disease.
2. The residence of consumers who have strong allergic reactions to the animal type.
3. The residence of consumers who have fears or phobias about the animal type.
4. Any medical treatment area in which sterility cannot be expected to be maintained due to the animal's presence.

Revised 3/02, 7/02, 9/07, 6/11